



Clicker on Stage 1

The Clicker 5 Grids below are aligned with Stages. Stages was created by Madaline Pugliese and is published by Assistive Technology, Inc. Stages is an intuitive performance based alternative assessment program as well as a developmental framework illustrating the stages that identify our students cognitive and language abilities. Clicker 5, created by John Crick of Crick software, is a multi-media word

processor that is so much more than a word processor!!!! Using Clicker 5 and the Stages framework allows teachers to create appropriate curriculum materials for their students, differentiate instruction to meet the needs of the learner and easily locate and identify the learning grids that are most suitable for the learner. Most importantly the Stages framework serves as a guide for teaching educators what to include in their learning grids, how to design the grids to capture a real picture of the learner's strengths and weaknesses. Clicker 5 provides the supports and the power for creating the materials using multi-media materials supports such as graphics, video and music to engage all learners as well as providing alternative access, auditory scanning, text-to-speech, and magnified views to allow all students the opportunity to participate. Not only does Clicker 5 and Stages allow us to demonstrate that all students can learn, these tools allow the learner to demonstrate what they are learning!!!

Happy Clickin'

Darlene Brodbeck



Stage 1 – Cause and Effect: The learner is just starting to focus on the screen. The learner is beginning to consistently react to a prompt. Certain prompts elicit more of a response than others.

Tips for creating grids for Stage 1 learners:

1. Take advantage of the alternative access features of Clicker and try to allow the learner to take control over the computer. The features such as auditory scanning, switch access, and the ability to slow down the scanning speed make this piece of software a very effective tool when trying to reach your educational objectives and getting all of the students on the computer. 😊
2. Use the multi-media features of Clicker 5 and incorporate the appropriate media i.e. music, photographs, movies, familiar voices, character voices, etc to capture the attention of the learner specific to their learning preference and interest. 😊
3. Keep the content light and simple. The stage 1 learner does not focus on the content.
4. Use varied reinforcers and prompts with the use of the multi-media features of Clicker. Clicker allows you to use photographs, symbols, movies, music, recorded voices, computer

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voices, etc. Let your imagination run wild and create some prompts and reinforcers to engage even the most reluctant learner. The more engaging the content the more likely you are to get a reaction. 😊

In this example, which was created from the training manual from Crick, I placed a huge graphic on the cell and when the student hits the screen, anywhere on the screen, the nursery rhyme plays.



In this example, we knew that the student loved airplanes. We wanted to determine if he would attend to the screen if he saw a video clip of an airplane landing, which I found on Google. The student clicked on the cell and a video of the airplane with great sound effects played.



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☺ = The book , *iClick for Clicker 5* written by Dan Herlihy and Darlene Brodbeck further illustrates how to use Clicker 5 to incorporate these ideas and many more. To order the book or for more information, please visit:
<http://www.connectivetechsolutions.com/products.php>

Which stage does this learning grid go with? When you use the learning grids from Crick at www.learninggrids.com keep in mind that they did not create these grids using the Stages framework. However, you can identify which stage is most appropriate for each grid and with some minor editing you can quickly adapt the learning grid to accommodate more learners therefore differentiating the instruction to meet a wider range of learners while not creating multiple separate lessons. Some activities will cover more than one stage and the real determining factor will be the level of support that the student receives either from a teacher or therapist or even from the computer. For example, talking books can work with more than one stage with some minor editing. To assist the **stage 1** learner, you can use the graphics from their favorite books and record the animated voices for these characters to capture the student's attention. Talking books can be designed for **stage 2** learners and set up to read to the student when they select a huge icon, remember no choice making at this stage but simple cause and effect. The **stage 3** learners can benefit from all of the vocabulary and labeling within the story. By creating hot spots within the talking book to label the graphics, the stage 3 learner is able to work on their objectives of labeling. The **stage 4** learner can use the same grid set or talking book by specifically selecting the read button and following along with the highlighted text. As we move up the framework, the **stage 5** learners can actually read the book at some level independently yet can click on the word or words that they do not know and Clicker will read it to them. **Stage 6** learners can benefit from talking books that apply to real life skills, such as how to dress for a job or how to greet someone. **Stage 7** learners can write about what they read.

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Resources:

To join the collaborative group of individuals aligning their Clicker 5 and Clicker Paint grids with Stages, go to <http://clicker5lifeskills.wikispaces.com/STAGES>



Additional Information about **Stages** can be found at <http://www.assistivetech.com>



Clicker 5 and Clicker Paint can be found at <http://www.cricksoft.com>



Additional **Learning grids** are located at <http://www.learninggrids.com>



iClick for Clicker 5, written by Dan Herlihy and Darlene Brodbeck, can be purchased at <http://www.connectivetechsolutions.com/products.php>

Darlene Brodbeck, author of this publication, or to obtain information about the book, ***iClick for Clicker 5***, which will teach you how to create learning grids using a variety of supports and tools to reach all learners please visit web:



<http://www.darlenesbest.com> or email: darlenebrodbeck@mac.com

Madalaine Pugliese, the very talented creator of Stages is extremely knowledgeable about the developmental hierarchy for learning as well as alternative assessment. She is a very engaging speaker and has not only put our alternative assessment initiative in gear, she has helped us work out the kinks to bring this initiative to the next level.



You can contact her at madalaine@comcast.net

Deborah Barrows is the sales representative for Clicker 5 and very passionate about giving all students the opportunity to participate. She is always ready to respond to a question, listen to an idea and help your with a quote. She can be reached at



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